

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABU DH 01921 281123Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----109510 281127Z /17

R 281110Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6297

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 1921

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS : MASS, TC, US
SUBJECT : UAE REQUEST FOR TOW'S

REF: ABU DHABI 156, ABU DHABI 708

1. ON JUNE 28, I WAS ASKED TO MEET WITH SHAIKH KHALIFA BIN ZAYID, CROWN PRINCE OF EMIRATE OF ABU DHABI AND DEPUTY COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF UAEDF TO TALK ABOUT SEVERAL THINGS INCLUDING HIS APPRECIATION FOR DEPARTMENT'S JUNE 27 RESPONSE TO CRITICISM OF US MIDDLE EAST POLICY (STATE 149108). HOWEVER, FIRST THING THAT CAME UP IN CONVERSATION WAS ABSENCE OF ANY RESPONSE TO UAE REQUEST FOR TOWS. KHALIFA AGAIN MADE POINT THAT UAE NOT SEEKING LARGE NUMBERS BUT DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT NUMBER INTERESTED IN. HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE A DECISION SOON NOW THAT CERTAIN DECISIONS ON LONG STANDING ARMS SALES REQUESTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES ARE BEING MADE BY THE ADMINISTRATION. HE ASKED IF I WOULD BE GOING TO WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATIONS SOON. WHEN I SAID I HOPED TO DO SO LATTER PART THIS SUMMER, HE SAID HE HOPED I WOULD RAISE SUBJECT THEN IF NO NEWS RECEIVED BY THAT TIME. I PROMISED TO DO SO, ALTHOUGH I DID NOT GIVE HIM MUCH ENCOURAGEMENT THAT A DECISION WOULD BE REACHED SOON.

2. I WOULD PREFER THAT WE NOT STRING THE UAE ALONG TOO MUCH
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LONGER ON THIS OUTSTANDING REQUEST. IF AFTER FURTHER REVIEW WE FEEL THAT POLICY REASONS RECLUDE OUR SELLING THIS WEAPONS SYSTEM TO UAE, THEN I THINK WE SHOULD SAY SO. UAE IS LOOKING AT FRENCH EQUIVALENT OF TOWS, THE "MILAN" AND THE "HOT", AND I THINK WE SHOULD AS MATTER OF COURTESY TELL SHAIKH KHALIFA WHERE WE STAND SO THAT UAEDF CAN MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

DICKMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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